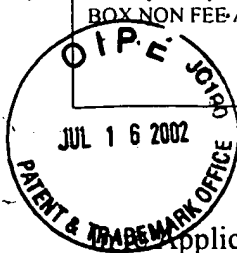


#2  
28 July  
7-30-02

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to:  
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*Patricia L. Mesuch*  
Patricia L. Mesuch

7/10/02  
Date of Signature



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of:  
Fleenor et al.

Serial No.: 09/998,465

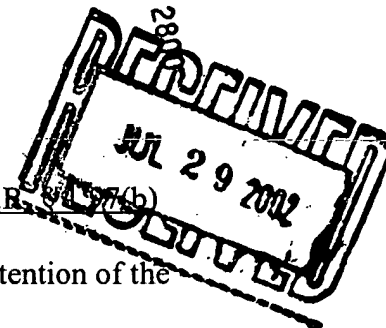
Filed: November 30, 2001

Title: FIBER OPTIC COMPONENT MARKING  
WITH FIBER OPTIC INDICIA

Art Unit: 2871

Examiner: N/A

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JUL 19 2002  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2871



INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the document listed on the attached PTO 1449. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the filing date of the application, but, to the best of Applicants' knowledge, before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits.

Copies of the listed documents are attached.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the listed documents and indicate that they were considered by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claims in the application and applicants determine that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, applicants reserve the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there are any other fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 19-2167. If a fee is required for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 not accounted for above, such an extension is requested and the fee should also be charged to our Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



Timothy J. Aberle  
Attorney for Applicants  
Registration No. 36,383  
P.O. Box 489  
Hickory, N. C. 28603  
Telephone: 828/901-5354

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

*July 9, 2002*

<b>FORM PTO-1449 U.S. Department of Commerce</b> <b>Patent and Trademark Office</b> JUL 16 2002 <b>LIST OF RELATED DOCUMENTS CITED BY APPLICANT</b> (Use several sheets if necessary)				<b>Attorney Docket Number:</b> HE0170		<b>Serial Number:</b> 09/998,465	
				<b>Applicant:</b> Fleenor et al.			
				<b>Filing Date:</b> 11/30/01		<b>Group:</b> 2871	
<b>U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>							
Examiner Initial		Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date if Appropriate
KSW	AA	6,358,874B1	3/19/02	Kobayashi et al.	501	105	11/30/98
	AB						
	AC						
	AD						
	AE						
	AF						
	AG						
	AH						
	AI						
	AJ						
<b>FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>							
		Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation Yes   No
	AK						
	AL						
	AM						
	AN						
<b>OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)</b>							
	AO						
	AP						
	AQ						
<b>EXAMINER</b> <i>Keown &amp; Wood</i>						<b>DATE CONSIDERED</b> <i>5/6/03</i>	